

FW: Border Blockage - Emerson MB / Pembina MB

From: "Connelly, Christina -MNPLS -TD" <christina.connelly@international.gc.ca>
To: "Pilon, Carl -MNPLS -TD" <carl.pilon@international.gc.ca>, "Fisher, Dani -MNPLS -GR" <dani.fisher@international.gc.ca>, "Burt, Evan -MNPLS -TD" <evan.burt@international.gc.ca>, "McLeod, Colin -MNPLS -GR" <colin.mcleod@international.gc.ca>
Date: Thu, 10 Feb 2022 15:36:14 +0000

Hi all,

Please see below for a message from Bryan Wurscher, SVP at Scoular (Omaha-based agribusiness with offices in Minneapolis) regarding the negative impact of trucking blockades on cross-border commerce. I've been following the news and our internal communications about this situation, but given that it is changing rapidly, I wanted to reach out to all of you for the latest updates before responding to Bryan. Could you please help me with the following?

1. If possible, this input should be provided to HQ – Colin, maybe in the advocacy report? I would like to be able to let Bryan know that his concerns have been heard and passed along to policymakers in Ottawa.
2. Do we have any updates on when the situation might be resolved, and/or, how various border crossing posts are handling it?
3. Do we know if any nearby crossings that are consistently open, and/or can we recommend any other workarounds for Scoular?

Many thanks for your input!
Christina

Christina Connelly (she/her/elle)
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N'hésitez pas à me répondre dans la langue officielle de votre choix | Please feel free to respond in the official language of your choice

From: Bryan Wurscher <BWurscher@scoular.com>
Sent: February 10, 2022 9:19 AM
To: Connelly, Christina -MNPLS -TD <Christina.Connelly@international.gc.ca>
Subject: Border Blockage - Emerson MB / Pembina MB

Christina:

I hope this email finds you well. Not sure if you're the right person to raise this with so if you're not I would appreciate any help you can provide me in directing me to the right person. I'm sure you're

already aware but the trucker blockades in Canada are causing severe disruptions to commerce including cross border commerce. We had several trucks (related to Canadian sunflower seeds being imported into the US) on both sides of the border that had to turn around at the Pembina ND/ Emerson MB crossing this morning. We are rerouting those trucks and additional trucks in the near future further west to the Boissevain crossing which we understand is currently not blockaded.

The need to reroute these shipments because of the blockage is more than doubling our freight costs and in a low margin business like commodities, that's the difference between making money and losing money. Hopefully those involved in the blockade understand they're not hurting white collar corporations with their actions but rather hard working Canadian farmers who are trying to get their products to market.

Any advice or updates you could provide would be greatly appreciated. We obviously have little choice in the short term given our needs to service our customers but in the medium to long term we will need to look for domestic US solutions if the blockade persists or expands to other crossing points.

As always, thanks for your guidance and support. Hopefully we all get back to "normal soon"

All my best,
Bryan

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